



Exploring Your Watershed: Mapping with EnviroAtlas
These materials are part of EPA Report #EPA/600/R-18/203.

Student Name: _____

EnviroAtlas Questions

1. Looking at the “Map Legend” next to **Map #2**, what is the percent cropland in your school’s drainage area/watershed? _____ %
2. Look at the watershed(s) next to your school’s watershed. How does the percent cropland in your school’s watershed compare with ones around it? Does it have more or less cropland? Be as specific as possible. _____

3. Look at **Map #3**, which shows your entire state. How does the amount of cropland in your watershed compare to the amount of cropland in the entire State? Which part of your State has the watersheds with the most cropland? _____

4. What is the main human benefit of cropland? How might cropland impact the watershed? _____

5. **Look at Map #4. Follow your raindrop!** Does it go through a field? _____ Does it go through the woods? _____ Does it go over a parking lot? _____ Does it cross a road? _____ Describe how your raindrop could be polluted by human actions: _____

6. **Look at the legend.** What is the distance that your raindrop has to travel? _____ km
7. Cleaning up the environment and preventing ecosystems from getting polluted in the first place can benefit **both nature and people**. In the chart, list some of the benefits of caring for your local watershed. If you can think of more than three, add them!

Benefits	
(all of the positive outcomes of caring for the watershed)	
	<i>Example: cleaner places to play/fish/swim! (recreation)</i>
1	
2	
3	



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1. Looking at the “Map Legend” next to **Map #2**, what is the percent cropland in your school’s drainage area/watershed? *Answers will vary* %
2. Look at the watershed(s) next to your school’s watershed. How does the percent cropland in your school’s watershed compare with ones around it? Does it have more or less cropland? Be as specific as possible. *Answers will vary.*
3. Look at **Map #3**, which shows your entire state. How does the amount of cropland in your watershed compare to the amount of cropland in the entire State? Which part of your State has the watersheds with the most cropland? *Answers will vary.*
4. What is the main human benefit of cropland? How might cropland impact the watershed? *The main human benefit of cropland is food. Cropland can impact the watershed by contributing to erosion, fertilizers, pesticides, animal waste, and sediment into the water.*
5. **Look at Map #4. Follow your raindrop!** Does it go through a field? Does it go through the woods? Does it go over a parking lot? Does it cross a road? Describe how your raindrop could be polluted by human actions: *All answers will vary based on location.*
6. **Look at the legend.** What is the distance that your raindrop has to travel? *Answers will vary* km
7. Cleaning up the environment and preventing ecosystems from getting polluted in the first place can benefit **both nature and people**. In the chart, list some of the benefits of caring for your local watershed. If you can think of more than three, add them!

Benefits	
(all of the positive outcomes of caring for the watershed)	
	<i>Example: cleaner places to play/fish/swim! (recreation)</i>
1	<i>Planting trees along streams traps pollutants and prevents erosion. This also keeps the water temperature from heating up in summer!</i>
2	<i>Preventing industrial/chemical pollution in rivers protects fish from getting sick, which can prevent families from getting sick or going hungry.</i>
3	<i>Preventing human trash and waste from getting in the streams and rivers protects wildlife habitat and increases our enjoyment of the natural environment.</i>